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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 3724

In re

Patent Application of

William J. Schimmels

Application No. 10/610,686

Confirmation No. 2926

Filed: July 1, 2003

Examiner: Phong H. Nguyen

"BLIND TRIMMING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME"

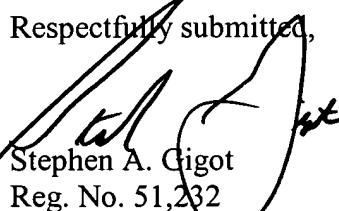
**Mail Stop-Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

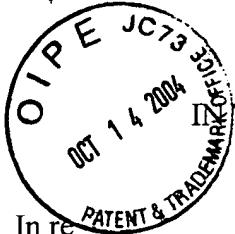
Transmitted herewith is a Response to Election/Restriction Requirement and Amendment in the above-identified application.

In the event Applicant has overlooked the need to request an extension of time, please consider this a request for the same.

Charge or credit Deposit Account No. 13-3080 with any shortage or overpayment of the fees associated with this communication. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Stephen A. Gigot  
Reg. No. 51,232

Docket No. 084586-9004  
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP  
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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108  
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I, Teresa Thelen, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

Teresa Thelen

Signature

10/11/04

Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop-Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication responds to the Office action mailed October 4, 2004 and is filed within the one-month shortened statutory period for reply. Please charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3080.

Please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.